Exhibit A

--7. (Amended) An agent determined to be capable of specifically inhibiting [the] fusion of a macrophage-tropic primary isolate of HIV-1 to a $CD4^+$ cell, but not a T cell-tropic isolate of HIV-1 to a $CD4^+$ cell, using a method which comprises:

(a) contacting (i) a first appropriate $CD4^+$ cell, which is labeled with a first dye, with (ii) a cell expressing [the] an HIV-1 envelope glycoprotein of the macrophage-tropic primary isolate of HIV-1 on its surface, which is labeled with a second dye, in the presence of an excess of the agent under conditions which would normally permit the fusion of the $CD4^+$ cell to the cell expressing the HIV-1 envelope glycoprotein on its surface in the absence of the agent, the first and second dyes being selected so as to allow resonance energy transfer between the dyes;

(b) exposing the product of step (a) to conditions which would result in resonance energy transfer if fusion has occurred; and

(c) determining whether there is a reduction of resonance energy transfer, when compared with the resonance energy transfer in the absence of the agent;

(d) contacting (i) a second appropriate $CD4^+$ cell, which is labeled with a first dye, with (ii) a cell expressing [the] an HIV-1 envelope glycoprotein of a T cell-tropic isolate of HIV-1 on its surface, which is labeled with a second dye, in the presence of an excess of the agent under conditions which would normally permit the fusion of the $CD4^+$ cell to the cell expressing the HIV-1

envelope glycoprotein on its surface in the absence of the agent, the first and second dyes being selected so as to allow resonance energy transfer between the dyes;

(e) exposing the product of step (d) to conditions which would result in resonance energy transfer if fusion has occurred; [and]

(f) determining whether there is a reduction of resonance energy transfer, when compared with the resonance energy transfer in the absence of the agent; and

(g) comparing the determination made in step (c) with the determination made in step (f), wherein a decrease in transfer in step (c) but not in step (f) indicates that the agent is capable of specifically inhibiting fusion of the macrophage-tropic primary isolate of HIV-1 to $CD4^+$ cells, [and a decrease in transfer in step (f) but not step (c) indicates that the agent is] but not capable of specifically inhibiting the fusion of a [macrophage] T cell-tropic [primary] isolate of HIV-1 to the $CD4^+$ cells.--

--9. (Amended) An agent capable of specifically inhibiting [the] fusion of a macrophage tropic primary isolate of HIV-1 with a [CD+] CD4+ cell susceptible to infection by a macrophage-tropic primary isolate of HIV-1.--

--10. (Amended) A method of inhibiting fusion of a macrophage-tropic primary isolate of HIV-1 with a [CD+] CD4+ cell susceptible to infection by a macrophage-tropic primary isolate of HIV-1 which comprises contacting the $CD4^+$ cell with an [amount of an] agent capable of specifically

inhibiting such fusion in an amount effective to inhibit such fusion so as to thereby inhibit such fusion.--